

Bantam hockey tournament once again rates raves

By Rod Beaumont

Spring and baseball returned to Toronto this past weekend and with it, so did the doubting Thomas's. Spring is the time to get in shape and showcase future major leaguers. The Jays organization has always been a staunch supporter of this theory.

Sure, their record in the Grapefruit League leaves a lot to desire but let's wait until the starting lineup is set. The season is long and I believe the division is theirs to lose.

So, Blue Jays fans, loosen-up, it's too early to panic.

Another bantam tournament has come and gone and a special thanks to all the volunteers and organizers. Without you this tournament would not have been the success it was.

Attending this event I had the opportunity to view the games from the timekeeper's box at rinkside.

This proved to be a bonus as several games were quite the yawners and the timekeepers and referees proved to be very entertaining.

Bryan Lewis showed great community spirit taking time out of his busy NHL schedule to referee at this event, and has done so every year that I can remember.

The booster club was alive and well with stories galore and back-seat coaching theories for those who would listen.

In all, this tournament was worth

Rodent's Racket

the price of admission and I look forward to next year's event.

Curling can be a hard game to understand but even harder to play! So many things can be a factor and cause disappointment.

A good example of this was this year's Ontario championship. The Mike Harris rink was down to last rock against the Russ Howard rink and if the shot was made, they would have been the Ontario representatives at the Brier.

However, due to a piece of lint or straw unseen on the ice, the shot went astray and the rest is history. I had the pleasure to speak with Mike Harris's grandfather this week and found it enjoyable and informative.

For Mike Harris, the team is both young and skilled and I see great things in the future for his rink.

On the lighter side, I'd like to go back to Bryan Lewis. Last time I saw Mr. Lewis referee in the NHL it was a busy night with both penalty boxes full.

After the Georgetown Oshawa tilt last week that he was lucky enough to draw, it's nice to see things haven't changed.

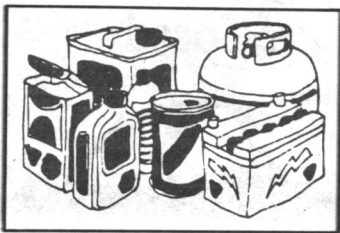
Thank you once again for your time and effort.

Do you have a topic for discussion or an opinion on the past week in sports? Write me care of Halton

Hills This Week, 232 Guelph St., Georgetown, or phone 873-2254. If it makes me go Hmmm, I'll include it in my column.

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GDHS dinner invitation

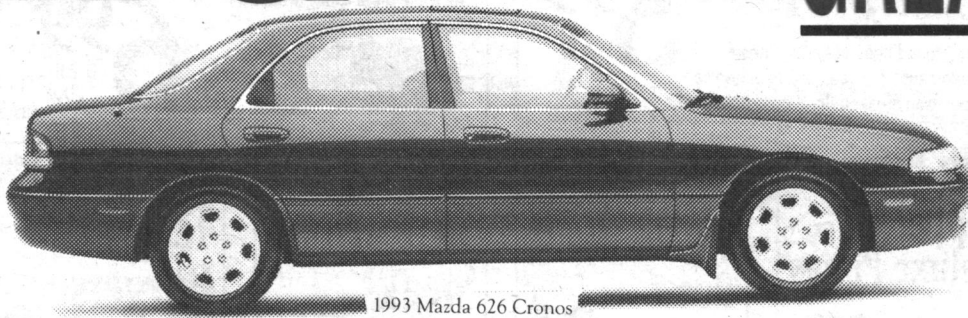
The Student Athletic Association at Georgetown District High School will be holding its annual spaghetti dinner and Silent Auction on Thursday, April 1, from 5-8 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Tickets are only \$5 per person.

For further information, contact Jim Hall, GDHS Athletics Director, at 877-6966.

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